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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Inventor: **RATH, Matthias**

Application No.: **09/881,976**

Group Art Unit: **1648**

Filed: **June 15, 2001**

Examiner: **JEFFREY J. STUCKER**

For: **METHOD OF PRODUCING VACCINES FROM PROTEIN SIGNAL OLIGOPEPTIDES**

RECEIVED

DEC 23 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Date: December 12, 2002

Reg. No. 46,877

Signature: _____

Siu K. Lo

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated June 12, 2002 in the above-captioned application. A request for a three-month extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith. Applicants respectfully request that the following Amendment be entered. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims as follows:

1.

(Amended) A method of producing therapeutic peptides as vaccines in the prevention of human disease caused by a protein, the method comprising:

- a. identifying a protein responsible for causing human disease;
- b. identifying a signal oligopeptide sequences within the structure of the disease causing protein, wherein the signal oligopeptide representing the amino acid sequence of maximum hydrophilicity of the protein; and